

Dear Friends and Colleagues –

We wanted to provide you with some additional information regarding Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts. I know that some of you may have received pieces of this information previously; please excuse any duplication. We are working with our colleagues across the NIH, SAMHSA and the rest of HHS to provide whatever information and technical support we can. For the sake of brevity and your convenience, I have concentrated on providing you web links that you can follow at your own discretion.

► For NIDA information, please go to www.drugabuse.gov/katrina. On this page you will find a message from NIDA Director Dr. Nora Volkow, plus links to a variety of NIDA publications that may be useful to you. Most of this information focuses on stress and drug abuse. Also:

- NIDA continues to work with SAMHSA to identify staff who might be available for temporary redeployment to assist relief efforts.
- NIDA and NIAAA are jointly sponsoring an expansion of a mechanism for rapid review and funding of “time sensitive” research related to Hurricane Katrina. For details, see: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DA-05-013.html>.

► For NIH information, including information on those measures we are taking to try to help grantees and applicants affected by the disaster, go to www.nih.gov/about/director/hurricanekatrina/index.htm and <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/katrina/index.htm>. These sites are constantly updated with announcements, frequently asked questions and their answers, etc.

▪ Also note that NIH has arranged for telephone consultation services for primary care providers of patients in the Katrina disaster zone in the following medical areas:

- Environmental/toxic concerns
- Infectious Diseases and Tropical/Geographical Medicine
- Ophthalmology
- Oral Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Cardiac/pulmonary diseases
- Genetic diseases
- Pediatric endocrinology
- Pediatric metabolism
- Obstetrics/gynecology
- Adult endocrinology

For Medical Consultation Services: call 1-866-887-2842, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Consultations for other medical areas can also be arranged.

Due to the emergent nature of the situation please do not call this number unless you are caring for a patient in the disaster zone or are taking care of a patient from the disaster zone.

- ▶ For a wide range of information from HHS, go to www.dhhs.gov/katrina/index.html.
- ▶ For the most disaster-related information regarding interventions and services in the addiction field, go to www.samhsa.gov, and click on the Katrina icon.
- ▶ For individuals you may know who are in crisis, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline can be reached at 1-800-273-TALK(8255) and TTY: 1-800-799-4889)

This is a trying time, and we will of course continue to work with all of our colleagues to do what we can to help those in need. If you have any questions about NIDA's response, please feel free to contact me.

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